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**COCONINO COUNTY ARIZONA**

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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February 4, 2004

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FEB 09 2004Paul J. Babbitt, Jr.
District 1Elizabeth C. Archuleta
District 2Matt Ryan
District 3Deb Hill
District 4Louise Yellowman
District 5

The Honorable Marc Spitzer and
Members of the Corporation Commission
Arizona Corporation Commission
1200 West Washington Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Environmental Portfolio Standard
Docket No. RE-00000C-00-0377

Dear Chairman Spitzer and Commission Members:

On behalf of the Coconino County Board of Supervisors, I would like to express our strong support for biomass energy plants in Arizona and for the actions required by the Commission to support their development.

We see many advantages to these facilities. As we work to thin our forests to improve forest health and protect communities from catastrophic fire, biomass plants can provide a means to dispose of the large volume of small diameter trees that will result from thinning projects. In addition, these facilities can provide an additional source of renewable energy for this growing state.

The Board of Supervisors, therefore, urges the Arizona Corporation Commission to:

1. Support the effort to provide for a portion of Arizona's renewable energy to come from biomass (wood and wood waste products) energy;
2. Extend the Arizona Environmental Portfolio Standard (EPS) beyond the current sunset date of 2012 to attract investment and insure the long range viability of biomass projects;
3. Consider expansion of the renewable energy requirement above the current standard; and
4. Develop other rules and regulations necessary to advance the framework of a biomass energy industry in the State of Arizona.

Arizona Corporation Commission

DOCKETED

FEB 09 2004

DOCKETED BY	<i>[Signature]</i>
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The Coconino County Board of Supervisors will consider a formal resolution on this topic at its meeting of February 17, 2004, and will submit that resolution to the Corporation Commission.

Sincerely,

[Signature of Matthew G. Ryan]

Matthew G. Ryan
Chairman, Board of Supervisors